

**BEFORE THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
 REGION III
 4 Penn Center 1600 JFK Blvd.
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029**

IN THE MATTER OF:

**United States Cold Storage, LLC.
 United States Cold Storage, LLC
 4000 AM Drive
 Quakertown, PA 18951,**

Respondent.

**United States Cold Storage, LLC.
 United States Cold Storage, LLC
 4000 AM Drive
 Quakertown, PA 18951,**

Site/Facility.

) **DOCKET NO.: CAA-03-2022-0114**
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) **EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT**
) **AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER**
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EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

1. United States Cold Storage, LLC. (“Respondent”) and the Director, Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III (“Complainant”) enter into this Expedited Settlement Agreement (“the Agreement”) pursuant to Section 113(a)(3) and (d) of the Clean Air Act (the “Act” or “CAA”), 42 U.S.C. § 7413(a)(3), and (d) and Sections 22.13(b), and 22.18(b)(2), and (3) of the *Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits* (“Consolidated Rules of Practice”), 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b), and 22.18(b)(2), and (3). The Administrator has delegated the authority to enter into this Agreement to the Regional Administrator who, in turn, has delegated it to the Complainant.
2. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III (“EPA”) has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Section 113(a)(3) and (d) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(a)(3) and (d), and 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.1(a)(2) and 22.4 of the Consolidated Rules of Practice.
3. Complainant alleges that, at all times relevant to the allegations described in this Agreement, Respondent was a “person” as defined in Section 302(e) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7602(e), and the owner and operator of a “stationary source,” as the term is defined in Section 112(r)(2)(C) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(2)(C), and 40 C.F.R. § 68.3.

4. On October 26, 2021, an authorized representative of the EPA conducted an inspection of the subject facility to determine compliance with Section 112(r) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r), and the Risk Management Program (“RMP”) regulations promulgated at 40 C.F.R. Part 68. It was observed that Respondent operates a facility that stores anhydrous ammonia (NH₃) in a closed-loop system for the refrigeration of food products for consumers. The facility stores approximately 21,421 pounds of anhydrous ammonia.
5. Ammonia is a regulated substance and is subject to 112(r) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7414(r)(7), and is subject to the RMP rules in 40 C.F.R. part 68. The threshold quantity for the regulated substance is 10,000 pounds, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 68.130, Table 1. More than a threshold quantity of a regulated substance is present in a process at the Facility and the facility qualifies as RMP program 3.
6. Complainant has identified the following violation of the RMP regulations:

On October 26, 2021, EPA found that the Respondent had installed a relief header on compressor #3 that was located 14 feet horizontally from a roof air intake on the roof of the machinery room; in addition a chain wheel was not installed for operation of the king valve located 11.5 feet above the floor in the machinery room. These items were not installed in accordance with the recognized and generally accepted good engineering practices (IIAR 2) at the time of installation. [40 CFR Part 68.65(d)(2)].
7. Complainant and Respondent agree that settlement of this matter for a penalty of \$1,500 (one thousand five hundred dollars) is in the public interest. In calculating this amount, Complainant considered a number of factors, including, but not limited to, the seriousness of the violation and the other factors provided in CAA Section 113(e)(1), EPA’s *Combined Enforcement Policy for CAA Section 112(r) Risk Management Program dated June 20, 2012*, and EPA’s Expedited Settlement Policies in Addressing Violations of CAA 112(r) Risk Management Program Regulations dated May 5, 2000, January 5, 2004, and December 20, 2013.
8. Respondent agrees that, within 30 days of the effective date of this Consent Agreement, Respondent shall make a payment of **\$1,500** by one of four methods: 1) electronic funds transfer (“EFT”), 2) Automated Clearinghouse, 3) Pay.gov, or 4) a cashier’s check or certified check payable to “**United States Treasury**”, with the case name, address and docket number of this Agreement (CAA-03-2022-0114), for the amount specified above.

a. Payment of the penalty amount by EFT:

Federal Reserve Bank of New York
ABA 021030004
Account 68010727
SWIFT address FRNYUS33
33 Liberty Street
New York, NY 10045
Beneficiary: Environmental Protection Agency

b. Payment of the penalty amount by Automated Clearinghouse (“ACH”):

U.S. Treasury REX/Cashlink ACH Receiver

ABA: 051036706
Account Number: 310006, Environmental Protection Agency

CTX Format Transaction Code 22- Checking

Physical Location of the U.S. Treasury Facility
5700 Rivertech Court
Riverdale, MD 20737

Remittance Express (REX): 1-866-234-5681

c. Payments made through Pay.gov:

Payers can use their credit or debit cards (Visa, MasterCard, American Express & Discover) as well as checking account information to make payments. Follow these steps to make a payment:

- (1) You **DO NOT** need a user name and password or account.
- (2) Enter **SFO 1.1** in the form search box on the top left side of the screen.
- (3) Open the form and follow the on-screen instructions.
- (4) Select your method of payment from the “Type of Payment” drop down menu.
- (5) Based on your selection, the corresponding line will open and no longer be shaded grey.
- (6) Enter the docket number of this Agreement into the field.

d. Payment of the penalty amount by regular U.S. Postal Service shall be sent via **certified mail to:**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box - Cincinnati Finance Center Box 979077
St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

e. Payment of the penalty amount by overnight mail (FedEx or other non-U.S. Postal Service express mail) shall be sent to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Government Lockbox 979077
1005 Convention Plaza
SL-MO-C2-GL
St. Louis, MO 63101

f. A list of the payment methods is also provided at this website
<https://www.epa.gov/financial/makepayment>.

9. Within 24 hours of payment, the Respondent shall also send proof of payment (a copy of the check, confirmation of credit card or debit card payment, confirmation of wire or automated clearinghouse transfer), by electronic mail to:

Zoe Longenecker-Wright (3ED12)
Longeneckerwright.zoe@epa.gov

and,

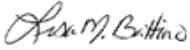
Regional Hearing Clerk (3RC00)
R3_Hearing_Clerk@epa.gov

10. The Respondent certifies that, since its last Risk Management Plan update required pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 68.190, it has not done either of the following: (a) introduced a new regulated substance at the facility in an amount greater than its threshold quantity; or (b) introduced a new process which uses a regulated substance in an amount greater than its threshold quantity.
11. In signing this Agreement, the Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations in this Agreement; neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations in this Agreement; agrees not to contest EPA's jurisdiction with respect to the execution of this Agreement, the issuance of the attached Final Order, or the enforcement the Agreement; expressly waives its right to a hearing on any issue of law or fact in this Agreement and any right to appeal the accompanying Final Order; consents to the issuance of the Agreement and agrees to comply with its terms; agrees to bear its own costs and attorney's fees; and agrees not to deduct for federal tax purposes the civil penalty assessed in this Agreement.
12. By its signature below, the Respondent certifies, subject to civil and criminal penalties for making a false submission to the United States Government, that (1) he or she has corrected the violations, and (2) any documentation or information that he or she provided to EPA was true and accurate.
13. This Agreement and the attached Final Order constitute a settlement by EPA of its claims for civil penalties for the violations in this Agreement.
14. EPA reserves the right to commence action against any person, including Respondent, in response to any condition which EPA determines may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to the public health, public welfare, or the environment. In addition, this settlement is subject to all limitations on the scope of resolution and to the reservation of rights set forth in Section 22.18(c) and Section 22.31(a) of the Consolidated Rules of Practice. Further, EPA reserves any rights and remedies available to it under the Act, the regulations promulgated thereunder, and any other federal laws or regulations for which EPA has jurisdiction, to enforce the provisions of this Consent Agreement, following its filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk.
15. Late payment of the agreed upon penalty may subject Respondent to interest, administrative costs and late payment penalties in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 13.11.
16. COST OF COMPLIANCE: Respondent certifies that it has expended \$36,000 to correct the alleged violation(s) and to come into compliance.
17. This Agreement is binding on the parties signing below and is effective upon filing, in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.31(b).

18. The undersigned representative certifies that she/he is fully authorized to execute this Agreement and to legally bind United States Cold Storage, LLC.
19. As permitted under 40 CFR § 22.6, the Regional Hearing Clerk will serve copies of this Agreement and Final Order by e-mail to the parties at the following valid e-mail addresses: Longeneckerwright.zoe@epa.gov (for Complainant), lbattino@uscold.com (for Respondent).

For Respondent: United States Cold Storage LLC.

Date: 08/24/2022

By: 

Name: Lisa Battino

Title: USCS Vice President, Compliance and Safety

For Complainant: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III

After reviewing the Agreement and other pertinent matters, I, the undersigned Director of the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, agree to the terms and conditions of this Agreement and recommend that the Regional Administrator, or his/her designee, the Regional Judicial Officer, issue the attached Final Order.

Date: _____

By: _____

Karen Melvin, Director
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division

**BEFORE THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
4 Penn Center 1600 JFK Blvd.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029**

IN THE MATTER OF:

**United States Cold Storage, LLC.
United States Cold Storage, LLC
4000 AM Drive
Quakertown, PA 18951,**

Respondent.

**United States Cold Storage, LLC.
United States Cold Storage, LLC
4000 AM Drive
Quakertown, PA 18951,**

Site/Facility.

DOCKET NO.: CAA-03-2022-0114

**EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT
AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER**

FINAL ORDER

Complainant, the Director of the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region III, and Respondent, United States Cold Storage, LLC., have executed a document entitled "Expedited Settlement Agreement," which I hereby ratify as a Consent Agreement in accordance with the *Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/ Termination or Suspension of Permits* ("Consolidated Rules of Practice"), 40 C.F.R. Part 22, (with specific reference to Sections 22.13(b) and 22.18(b)(2) and (3)). The terms of the foregoing Expedited Settlement Agreement are accepted by the undersigned and incorporated herein as if set forth at length.

Based upon the representations of the parties in the attached Expedited Settlement Agreement, the penalty agreed to therein took into account the factors provided in CAA Section 113(e)(1), EPA's Combined Enforcement Policy for CAA Section 112(r) Risk Management Program dated June 20, 2012, as well as the EPA Memoranda, "Use of Expedited Settlements in Addressing Violations of the Clean Air Act Chemical Accident Prevention Provisions, 40 C.F.R. Part 68," dated January 5, 2004, "Changes to Restrictions on the Use of Expedited Settlements in Addressing Violations of the Clean Air Act Chemical Accident Prevention Provisions," dated December 20, 2013, and "Revised Guidance on the Use of Expedited Settlement Agreements," dated November 24, 2014.

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO Section 113(d)(1) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. §7413(d)(1), and in accordance with Section 18(b)(3) of the Consolidated Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. Part 22, and having

relied upon the representations of the parties set forth in this Agreement, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that Respondent pay a civil penalty in the amount of **\$1,500.00 (ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS)**, in accordance with the payment provisions set forth in the Expedited Settlement Agreement, and comply with the terms and conditions of the Expedited Settlement Agreement.

This Final Order constitutes the final Agency action in this proceeding. This Final Order shall not in any case affect the right of the Agency or the United States to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief, or criminal sanctions for any violations of the law. This Final Order resolves only those causes of action alleged in the Expedited Settlement Agreement and does not waive, extinguish or otherwise affect Respondent's obligation to comply with all applicable provisions of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 7401 *et seq.*, and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

This Expedited Settlement Agreement and Final Order will be effective upon filing.

Date:

By:

Joseph J. Lisa
Regional Judicial and Presiding Officer
U.S. EPA Region III



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
FOUR PENN CENTER
1600 JOHN F. KENNEDY BLVD.
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19103

Expedited Settlement Agreement and Final Order

In the Matter of: United States Cold Storage LLC, Quakertown PA
Proceedings under Section 113(d)(1) of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d)(1).

EPA Docket No.: CAA-03-2022-0114

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on _____, the foregoing *Expedited Settlement Agreement and Final Order*, were filed with the EPA Region III Regional Hearing Clerk. I further certify that on the date set forth below, I caused to be served a true and correct copy of the foregoing to each of the following persons, in the manner specified below, at the following addresses:

Copy served via **Electronic Delivery, Return Receipt Requested**, to:

Lisa Battino, CSP – VP of Compliance and Safety
United States Cold Storage, LLC
2 Aquarium Drive, Ste.400
Camden, NJ 08103
Email: lbattino@uscold.com
Phone: (856) 354 8176

Copy served via **Electronic Delivery** to:

Zoe Longenecker-Wright, P.E., RMP Coordinator
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division - 3ED12
U.S. EPA, Region III
4 Penn Center
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029
LongeneckerWright.Zoe@epa.gov

Dated: _____
Regional Hearing Clerk
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III

TRACKING NUMBER(S): _____